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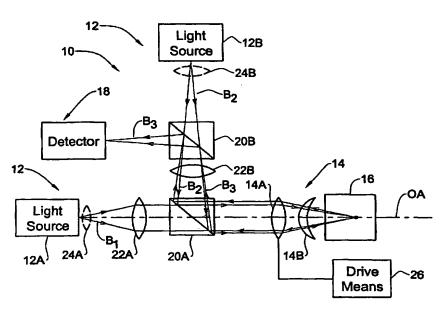
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(54) Title: TIGHT FOCUSING METHOD AND SYSTEM



(57) Abstract: A method and system are presented for use in recording/reading data from an array of data units within a three-dimensional storage medium. Exciting radiation is provided in the form of first and second light beams of first and second different wavelengths, respectively. The first and second light beams are concurrently directed and focusing onto desirably distanced from each other sites in the medium and excited light of a third wavelength coming from the excited site is collected to form an excited light beam to be directed towards a detector assembly, while correcting for chromatic and spherical aberrations of the light focusing and collection. This focusing/collection is sequentially repeated for successive sites in the medium with varying depth of focus.





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		PC	1/1L U3/UU8U3
A. CLASSIF IPC 7	CATION OF SUBJECT MATTER G11B7/09		
According to	International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification	on and IPC	
B. FIELDS S			
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	ta base consulted during the international search (name of data base	and, where practical, sear	cn terms used)
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C. DOCUME	NTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT		
Category °	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relev	rant passages	Relevant to claim No.
х	US 6 291 132 B1 (LEVICH EUGENE BOR AL) 18 September 2001 (2001-09-18) column 10, line 20 - column 19, li figures)	1-3,15, 28-31,49
х	WO 00/31733 A (PAVEL EUGEN) 2 June 2000 (2000-06-02) page 22, line 1 - page 32, line 16 figures	5;	1,31
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Fur	ther documents are listed in the continuation of box C.	χ Patent family mem	bers are listed in annex.
° Special c	ategories of cited documents:	T* later document nublish	ed after the international filing date
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P docum	nent published prior to the international filing date but	in the art. *&" document member of t	he same patent family
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	lion searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that s		
Electronic d	ata base consulted during the international search (name of data ba	se and, where practical, search terms us	ed)
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C. DOCUM	ENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT		
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consid	ent defining the general state of the art which is not ered to be of particular relevance document but published on or after the international	or priority date and not in conflict wi cited to understand the principle or i invention "X" document of particular relevance; the cannot be considered novel or cannot	th the application but theory underlying the claimed invention of be considered to
which i citation	n or other special reason (as specified) ent referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or	involve an inventive step when the of document of particular relevance; the cannot be considered to involve an document is combined with one or ments, such combination being obv.	claimed invention inventive step when the nore other such docu-
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Date of the	actual completion of the international search	Date of mailing of the International se	earch report
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